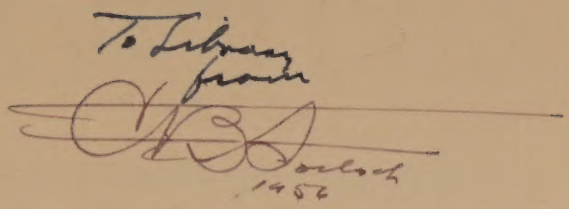
THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
1918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COMPREHENSIVE

INDEX

TO

BIENNIAL CONVENTION MINUTES

OF

THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

1918-1952

F. Eppling Reinartz
General Editor

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INTRODUCTION

This Comprehensive Index to the biennial convention minutes of The United Lutheran Church in America is a volume for whose appearance our pastors and executives have long hoped. The completion of the manuscript has been a task which, to use the word of its initiator, former Secretary of the Church, the Rev. Dr. Walton Harlowe Greever, can be described as "stupendous."

To Mrs. Robert DeHuete, who was a former chief of the secretarial staff in the office of the Secretary of the Church, goes unqualified credit for the revision of practically the entire Index on the basis of the fuller references provided as guides to the minutes of the 1948, 1950 and 1952 conventions. Mrs. DeHeute brought impressive inventiveness and thoroughness to her task, and persisted dauntlessly through many weeks of checking, recording, integrating, and finally typing the manuscript. She was sustained in her toil by the justifiable hope that this tool would save many precious hours for executive and administrative leaders of the synods and the general Church, for research students, and for pastors desiring to intensify their identification with The United Lutheran Church in America.

The final compiler followed, in the main, the methods used by Mrs. Rudolph Quirsfeld who indexed the first fourteen sets of minutes. Her exact and thorough-going studies, based on intimate knowledge of the Church's records for more than two decades, help to give this Index a continuity and reliability for which those who use it will be lastingly grateful.

Mrs. Frank Wilwol, successor to Mrs. Quirsfeld, helped effectively with the project in the interim between the service of Mrs. Quirsfeld and Mrs. DeHuete.

Supervision of the production phase of the mimeographed manuscript by the Lutheran Church House Office Service Department was by its chief, Mr. Albert A. F. Mellin, and by Miss Edna J. Schneider and her aides.

Usefulness

Some hint at the usefulness of the Index and its present relevance can be gained from a glance at a few of the more significant main headings, for example:

Budget
Congregations
Declarations and Statements
Interdenominational Relationships
Lay Service in the Church
Lutheran Relationships

8842

Marriage and Divorce	Social Missions
Ministry	Stewardship
Nominations and Elections	War and Peace
Pensions	Women, Their Role in the Church

During the years in which the Index has been compiled the most frequent requests concerning it have had to do with developments in the realm of Social Missions, and very especially the section of the Index showing the increasing participation of our Church in social action.

Some controlling principles

The fundamental practices in preparing the report of the Executive Board were developed by the first Secretary of the Church, the Rev. Dr. Melanchthon G. G. Scherer. The simple and logical outline which is being followed in the preparation of the 1956 report (see page 5 of the 1954 ULCA Convention Minutes) is that which Dr. Scherer began to develop for the 1920 Convention Minutes. The consistency with which that pattern has been followed helped greatly to make the compilation of the Comprehensive Index possible.

It was Dr. Scherer who established the precedent of reducing to a minimum, reference to personal names in the indexes. This practice has been followed throughout the years. One exception is the names of the constitutional officers of the Church, yet no attempt has been made in those instances to include comprehensive listings. Dr. Scherer constantly impressed upon his aides, we are told, the need to submerge the servant under the service.

Suppose you want to look up . . .

A few guides to the use of the Index seem to be in order.

1. The running heads at the top of each page indicate the progress of the Index alphabetization.
2. Items set in boldface capitals are ones considered of primary importance. The more significant sub-sections or items are set in boldface capitals and lower case.
3. The bold face figures to the left of a colon in each citation indicate the year of the convention minutes. Figures between the colon and the next following semi-colon (where there is more than one reference) indicate the page references. For example:

CONVENTION, ULCA
Minutes
Comprehensive Index of **36 : 36; 38 : 34; 40 : 36;** . . .

indicates that there are references to this Comprehensive Index in the 1936, 1938, 1940, etc., minutes of the ULCA on pages 36 and 34 and 36, etc. respectively.

This reference also reveals the procedure followed in selecting the alphabetical "control words." For example one might look up the words "Comprehensive," "Index," "Minutes," "ULCA," "Reference," "Documen-

tary," "Desk," "Book," "Analytical"—each of those words having been used in the biennial minutes which mention this project. However, upon further reflection it will be recognized that the basic control word is "Conventions." As related to this Index all the other words mentioned are modifiers of "Convention." Throughout the Index the effort has been made to select as main control words the most logically inclusive ones.

Completing libraries of ULCA convention minutes

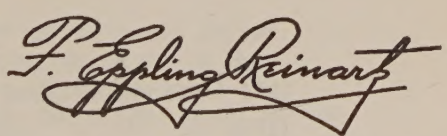
The wider distribution of this volume may quickly revive the interest of pastors, as well as synodical and general Church executives, in having a complete file of the ULCA minutes. The office of the Secretary has been endeavoring through the last two biennia to aid in such completions. Unfortunately the supply of copies for certain of our conventions is seriously limited. However, we mean to continue soliciting unused copies for distribution, particularly to seminary, college and public libraries, and to pastors serving in locations where a file of minutes is likely to be of broadest benefit.

Since 1940 Executive Secretary H. Torrey Walker of the Board of Publication has shown a tenacious and generous interest in this endeavor. Through his good offices it was possible to secure from the Board of Publication the funds required to mimeograph a preliminary edition of the Comprehensive Index. The Board of Publication has now underwritten the issuance of this work in printed form.

Churchmen of the future

Those institutions tend to project their life farthest and longest which hold in appreciative regard the tradition which they inherit. With churches this is all but an article of faith. No leadership is likely to be trusted which does not give evidence of being rooted and grounded in a given Church's own "Acts of the Apostles." While none would wish the hand of the past to rest heavily on the United Lutheran Church of the coming generations, many would join in the prayerful hope that the Christian creativity to which this Index is an open door will have its proper part in guiding, warning, instructing, and—by whatever measure of the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ the record can convey—inspiring and sanctifying tomorrow's Church.

New York, N. Y.
Eastertide, A.D. 1956



Secretary,
The United Lutheran Church in America

DATES AND PLACES
of
CONVENTIONS
of
THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

1918 ..... New York, New York
1920 ..... Washington, D. C.
1922 ..... Buffalo, New York
1924 ..... Chicago, Illinois
1926 ..... Richmond, Virginia
1928 ..... Erie, Pennsylvania
1930 ..... Milwaukee, Wisconsin
1932 ..... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1934 ..... Savannah, Georgia
1936 ..... Columbus, Ohio
1938 ..... Baltimore, Maryland
1940 .....Omaha, Nebraska
1942 ..... Louisville, Kentucky
1944 ..... Minneapolis, Minnesota
1946 ..... Cleveland, Ohio
1948 ..... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1950 ..... Des Moines, Iowa
1952 ..... Seattle, Washington

1954 (not indexed here) Toronto, Ontario, Canada
(1956 " " " Harrisburg, Pennsylvania)

COMPREHENSIVE INDEX

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1918 — 1952

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Third	October 17-25, 1922	Buffalo, N. Y.	" III
Fourth	October 21-29, 1924	Chicago, Ill.	" IV
Fifth	October 19-27, 1926	Richmond, Va.	" V
Sixth	October 9-16, 1928	Erie, Pa.	" VI
Seventh	October 7-14, 1930	Milwaukee, Wis.	" VII
Eighth	October 12-19, 1932	Philadelphia, Pa.	" VIII
Ninth	October 17-24, 1934	Savannah, Ga.	" IX
Tenth	October 14-21, 1936	Columbus, Ohio	" X
Eleventh	October 5-12, 1938	Baltimore, Md.	" XI
Twelfth	October 9-16, 1940	Omaha, Neb.	" XII
Thirteenth	October 14-21, 1942	Louisville, Ky.	" XIII
Fourteenth	October 11-17, 1944	Minneapolis, Minn.	" XIV
Fifteenth	October 5-11, 1946	Cleveland, Ohio	" XV
Sixteenth	October 6-14, 1948	Philadelphia, Pa.	" XVI
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